

Racing Into the Future! Positioning Your Library to Win

Racing Into the Future! Positioning Your Library to Win is a one day face-to-face workshop that allows participants to discover how public access computing in their libraries can contribute to the sustainability of the library and community. Several workshops have already been held around the state and more are scheduled in March and April. In these sessions attendees have an opportunity to brainstorm with colleagues to craft local solutions for the challenges related to public access computing. Topics covered include technology planning, staff and patron training, marketing, funding and more. Participants work together to build realistic attainable action plans for their library's future and learn how to receive ongoing support as the plans are implemented.



KDLA Consultant Ron Critchfield facilitating the *Racing Into the Future* workshop at Rough River Dam State Resort Park

Anyone in a leadership position in the library, including the director, assistant director, unit heads, supervisors and others are encouraged to attend. Library trustees, community leaders and other stakeholders in libraries are also welcome. The registration deadline is two weeks prior to each class session and all sessions are from 10:00 a.m. to 4:00 p.m. local time, with registration from 9:00 a.m. to 10:00 a.m. Library staff participants receive 5 contact hours or 0.5 CRPs for certification purposes.

Libraries defined as "rural", with a population of 25,000 or less, receive a stipend to offset the costs of attending the workshop. The stipend of \$200 per eligible library building in a library system will be granted if at least one staff member from that building attends a workshop. Funds will be dispersed after the library staff members and/or board members have attended a workshop.

Expenditures which may be made from stipend funds include:

- Travel expenditures including lodging, food not provided at the workshop, gas and tolls
- Expenses associated with keeping buildings open to the public while the staff is at the workshop; e.g., paying the salaries or hourly rates for substitute staff.

Dates and locations of the remaining *Racing Into the Future!* events are:

- Tuesday, March 20 — General Butler State Resort Park
- Tuesday, March 27 — Blue Licks Battlefield State Resort Park
- Thursday, March 29 — Pine Mountain State Resort Park
- Wednesday, April 11 — Natural Bridge State Resort Park
- Thursday, April 12 — Buckhorn Lake State Resort Park
- Friday, April 13 — Cumberland Falls State Resort Park
- Tuesday, April 24 — Hilton Cincinnati Airport in Florence

Register online at <http://kdla.ky.gov/libsupport/continuinged/racingfuture.asp>

Read Across America's Tenth Anniversary

The National Education Association's *Read Across America* is building a nation of readers. Help them celebrate Dr. Seuss' birthday on March 2nd. The event is now a year-round literacy campaign reaching nearly every home, school, and community. Find out 10 ways to get involved at <http://www.nea.org/readacross/10ways.html>.

Books for Bikes Program

While books and bikes may not seem to go hand in hand, children in Rockcastle County are finding that reading could be the key to a new bike.

Timed to coincide with *Read Across America*, Rockcastle County Public Library's fourth annual *Books for Bikes* program rewards children for reading by giving them the opportunity to win one of several bikes.

Children in the following age groups: 3-5, 6-8 and 9-12 compete to read the most books between January 1st and March 9th. Children check the books out from the library or the bookmobile and, after reading each book, complete a small form about the book they have read. Pre-schoolers can be read to by a caregiver and helped to draw a picture about the book. School-aged children will write a short sentence or paragraph.

At the culmination of the program, all participants are invited to attend a reading social at the library. The top ten boy and top ten girl readers from each age group will have their names put in a drawing to win a bike. Participants must be present to win a bicycle.

The *Books for Bikes* program began five years ago when a local attorney suggested the program in honor of his mother, a Rockcastle County educator who promoted literacy. He sponsored the program the first year and several other local businesses and individuals have since pitched in to help. In 2006, everything at the social was donated from the community and eight bikes were given away. "This program just keeps growing," says Children's Librarian Kathy McKibben. "I think this will be our best year yet."

Public Awareness Leadership Institute

Library professionals are being asked more and more to take a leadership role in their community. It means knowing how to develop partnerships, identify resources in the community, interact and develop great working relationships with the newspapers, elected officials, and community leaders. It means knowing how to overcome barriers in the community that prevent the library from being everything it could and should be. It means capitalizing on the successes while learning from other library professionals what works in their communities.

In response to this growing need, the Kentucky Department for Libraries and Archives (KDLA) has developed a model training program planned to graduate a class of new Kentucky public library "public relations professionals." The Institute is designed to increase the ripple effect of public awareness about public libraries.

The Institute consists of four training sessions led by experts and peers, and designed to increase participant skills in public awareness. There is a fifth evaluation session the following year. The Institute focuses on sharing techniques, success stories, and improving skills in raising the public awareness of the library in Kentucky communities. Participants identify a special public awareness need of their library, and through each session, build a plan to address that need. The Institute consists of five (1:00 p.m. – 1:00 p.m. the next day) training sessions led by experts and peers.

The third Public Awareness Leadership Institute will be held in 2007. The first class graduated 16 public library staff and trustees, and the second had a graduating class of 18. While the majority of graduates have been library staff, trustees are encouraged to apply as well. One library board of trustees graduate, Paul Poland of Scott County said, "One very special benefit from the sessions was interacting with other trustees and library staff from all across Kentucky, and getting to know more of the KDLA staff. This has proven to be a tremendous networking tool I use on a weekly basis. In addition to learning ways to raise awareness about the Scott County Public Library...I also made many good friends in the process!"

The topics for this year's session are "Discovering Your Strengths" (April 4 - 5, 2007) at Kentucky Dam Village State Resort Park, "Crafting and Telling Your Message" (May 14 -15, 2007) at Louisville Courtyard Marriott, "Working With Your Community" (July 9 - 10, 2007) at Lake Cumberland State Resort Park, "Presentation of Major Projects: Bringing it All Together" (September 12 - 13, 2007) at General Butler State Resort Park and the "Reunion" (April 7- 8, 2008) at Lake Cumberland State Resort Park.

Go to <http://kdla.ky.gov/libsupport/continuinged/institute07.asp> for an online application. The application deadline is March 2, 2007.



This project is supported by the Institute of Museum and Library Services under the provisions of the Library Services and Technology Act.

KDLA Awards Technology Grants

The Kentucky Department for Libraries and Archives has awarded Planning for Automation, Library Automation, Library Technology Innovation and Assistive Technology Grants totaling over \$150,000 for federal fiscal year 2006-2007. Many highly innovative and imaginative grants were submitted. Programs funded were:

Planning for Automation

Metcalf County Public Library: \$4,500.00

Staff will begin the automation process by researching planning and investigating possible automation programs. The project will culminate with the selection of an appropriate system for the library.

Automation

Boyd County Public Library: \$1,700.00

Library staff will purchase eight cordless barcode readers to be used to upgrade existing corded scanners throughout the library.

Grant County Public Library: \$40,000.00

Grant County intends to implement a Radio Frequency Identification (RFID) system in the library to improve customer service by streamlining library tasks and circulation routines. This system will also enhance security.

Lee County Public Library: \$33,785.00

Staff will purchase, install and utilize an Integrated Online Catalog, after completing bibliographic conversion and system selection.

Martin County Public Library: \$25,000.00

Martin County will purchase, install and utilize an Integrated Online Catalog, after completing bibliographic conversion and system selection.

Menifee County Public Library: \$18,250.00

Employees intend to replace the aging library automation system by purchasing, installing and utilizing an Integrated Online Catalog, after completing bibliographic conversion and system selection.

Library Technology Innovation

Bullitt County Public Library: \$5,000.00

A "Voice over IP" system will be installed to allow integration of the telephone system and computer network throughout the library system.

Gallatin County Public Library: \$4,998.00

Gallatin County will create a “KidSmart Early Learning Center” to allow county children to experience computer resources in a safe and supervised environment. The center will have up-to-date equipment and connectivity.

Grant County Public Library: \$4,943.00

Library staff will create a library computer center in the library community room. This laptop lab will also free up public access computers for community use.

Leslie County Public Library: \$500.00

Leslie County intends to purchase a backup camera for use on the bookmobile. This will increase safety for both the bookmobile and bystanders.

Pike County Public Library: \$5,000.00

Pike County will install a public computer reservation and print system to improve customer service and increase staff productivity.

Assistive Technology

Gallatin County Public Library: \$4,959.00

This library will purchase an Adaptive Technology (AT) bundle from a system vendor. This will include a large flat screen monitor, screen reading software, and adaptive web browsers.

Hopkins County Public Library: \$4,912.00

Mobile outreach and bookmobile programming will be provided, as well as networking to two local nursing homes.

Mercer County Public Library: \$2,206.00

Mercer County will purchase and install an automatic door for wheelchair use on the interior door of the parking lot entrance.

Pike County Public Library: \$4,000.00

Employees will install TTY printer equipped phones for each floor of the five libraries to improve customer service.



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‘Cross the Commonwealth

Susan “Susie” Lawrence, director of the **Jessamine County Public Library**, retired at the end of January after serving almost 15 years in the position. While the population of Jessamine County grew by 39% during her tenure, the library's collection, registered customers, circulation, traffic, square footage and income have increased 200% -- each. “We have recorded over 1,894,757 ‘visits’ and circulated 3,846,647 materials since Susie came to the library,” said Jessamine County Public Library Board President Ellen Miller. The library has over 30,000 registered customers.

The Friends of the **Fulton County Public Library** held a Christmas Gala and silent auction at the Ponotoc Community Center in Fulton on Saturday, December 9th. The Gala was a big success with \$2,500.00 raised for the library.

The **Oldham County Public Library’s Reading Railroad**, which buys books for needy children, had its most successful year ever in 2006. They were able to provide 262 children’s books to two local agencies that assist children. “Plus, we have enough money to purchase books in future months for agencies that have ongoing family programs,” said Oldham County Public Library Director Susan Eubank. Oldham County Public Library collected \$1,075.80 through donations and overdue fines. The library dedicated all overdue fines collected from December 4th to December 9th of 2006 to the Reading Railroad.

The Kiwanis Club of South Paducah has recently donated \$650.00 to the **McCracken County Public Library’s** Youth Services Department to update the beginner reader’s series *Henry and Mudge*, by Cynthia Rylant. The club has been a long-standing partner in youth services collection development at the library. The club’s members have held fundraisers to replace old and worn materials in young reader classics such as *Nancy Drew*, *Hardy Boys*, *Boxcar Children*, *Berenstain Bears* and many more.

The **Lexington Public Library Bilingual Cafe** program brings native Spanish speakers and native English speakers together to improve their language skills in a fun, informal setting. Participants are meeting every other Saturday through March 24 at the Village Branch. *Bilingual Cafe* is particularly geared toward people who already have some skills in their second language. For more information, call Carolina Fernández-McManus at (859) 231-5514.

The Prime Time Family Reading Time is a six or eight week reading, discussion and storytelling program held at public libraries. The program helps parents and children to bond through shared reading, improve skills and celebrate achievements. It is a partnership project of Kentucky Department for Libraries and Archives and Kentucky Humanities Council. The library sites chosen to host Prime Time Family Reading Time in 2007 are: **Adair County Public Library, Bath County Public Library, Boone County Public Library, Breckinridge County Public Library, Bullitt County Public Library, Gallatin County Public Library, Grayson County Public Library, Green County Public Library, Lexington Public Library, Logan County Public Library, Paul Sawyier Public Library, Pulaski County Public Library, Rowan County Public Library and Scott County Public Library**. To learn more about the program, visit <http://www.kyhumanities.org/pt184.cfm>

Teen Tech Week

Teen Tech Week is a new Young Adult Library Services Association (YALSA) celebration designed to encourage teens to take advantage of the wealth of technology offered by their libraries. *Teen Tech Week* registrants will be entered into a drawing for a free year's subscription, and every registrant will have one-month free access, to Rosen Publishing's new online database *Teen Health & Wellness: Real Life, Real Answers*; and two week's free access to Tutor.com's *Live Homework Help* and *Ask A Librarian* online services. Librarians will have access to these resources during *Teen Tech Week*, March 4-10, so they can incorporate them into activities and programming. Register at <http://www.ala.org/ala/yalsa/teentechweek/registrationfeedback/register.htm>

Continuing Education Events in March

2-3	McConnell Children's Literature Conference	Lexington
4	Arbuthnot Lecture	Lexington
5-7	XML: An Overview	Online
6	Sexual Harassment and Workplace Violence Prevention	Laurel County
7-8	WorldCat Resource Sharing: Beyond the Basics	Online
8	Employee Ethics	Greenville
12-13	Web 2.0: Social Software Applications for Libraries	Online
13	Employee Ethics	Fleming County
15	Sexual Harassment and Workplace Violence Prevention	Menifee County
20	Racing into the Future!	General Butler SRP
21	Trends in Technology	Online
27	Racing into the Future!	Blue Licks SRP
28	Custom Holdings in WorldCat Resource Sharing	Online
28	Podcasting for Libraries	Online
29	Racing into the Future!	Pine Mountain SRP

Note: See April and May CE Events at <http://kdla.ky.gov/libsupport/continuinged.htm>

Kentucky Public Library

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Kentucky Department for Libraries and Archives

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